U.S. Food & Drug Administration Docket Manager Room 1-23 12420 Parklawn Drive Rockville, MD 20857

Subject:Docket number 98P-0151/CP1

We urgently need your kind assistance and support to act on Docket Number 98P-0151/CP1, make the rule that bans the slaughter of downed animals for human food.

Down animals should not be marked or slaughtered for profit.

Down animals should be humanely euthanized or provided with appropriate veterinary care.

Please help.

Awaiting your favorable animal protection actions and response and honorable and respectful response to the cause of protecting all animals from cruelty.

You can make a difference.

Thank you

Best regards

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An estimated 17 to 70 million animals are killed in U.S. laboratories every year. Human gene studies, human cell models and cultures, state-of-the-art software, "super" computers, artificial skin, and test-tube studies are now replacing animals in modern laboratories. The Pharmagene laboratory, based in Royston, England, for example, uses human tissues and sophisticated computer technologies—and no animals—for drug research and development. In the U.S., Physiome Sciences develops 3-dimensional computer-based models of human organs, which exhibit the biophysical properties of both normal and diseased cells, for use in drug testing and medical research.

#### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- Buy from manufacturers that have permanently banned all animal tests (lists available from PETA), and educate friends and family about cruelty-free shopping.
- Reduce your own fisk of disease by avoiding the consumption of meat, eggs, and dairy products.
- If you work in a laboratory where animals are abused, call or write PETA's Research, Investigations & Rescue Department.

# Imagine having your body left to science ...









"If you have information on human genes, what's the point of going back to animals?"

Pharmagene cofounder Gordon Baxter

ust a few years ago, " every cosmetics company poisoned animals with lipstick, shampoo, hair spray, or other "beauty" products. Car manufacturers pummeled monkeys' heads with hydraulic "arms" to simulate crashes. Laboratory technicians killed a rabbit every time they tested a woman for pregnancy. These tests were thought to be "state of the art." Today, thanks to consumer activists and imaginative scientists, there are better, kinder methods.

But tens of millions of mice,

rats, rabbits, guinea pigs, ferrets, cats, dogs,

primates, sheep, cows, pigs, and other animals are still experimented on and killed in laboratories every year in the U.S. Instead of developing more advanced scientific techniques, vivisectors infect animals with diseases that they would never contract under prmal circumstances. They force-fed and inject them with toxic chemicals. They sever animals' spines, break their bones, and cement electrodes into their skulls. The military sickens and wounds animals with radiation, chemical agents, and guns even though the effects of these weapons on humans are already well documented. Psychologists subject animals to maternal deprivation, drug and alcohol addiction, and other torments.

The animals' only legal protection, the federal Animal Welfare Act, covers only housekeeping standards and does not regulate or prohibit any experiment, no matter how frivolous or painful, and more than 90 percent of animals used in these tests aren't even covered by the act. Many crude experiments are repeated again and again because there is no central information system that lists data from previous experiments.

In addition to being cruel, animal studies often lead down blind alleys and impede progress. Taking healthy beings of a different species, artificially inducing a condition, keeping them in unnatural and stressful conditions, then trying to apply the "results" to humans rarely works. Physiological interactions vary enormously from species to species. The polio vaccine, often cited as an example of why animal studies are necessary, was actually delayed for decades because experiments on monkeys led to a misunderstanding of the mechanism of polio infection.

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#### Unchain your dog

Dogs want to be where they can enjoy their human "pack": indoors! Dogs are highly social and crave companionship in addition to running and exploring. Keeping dogs tied up outside only makes them unhappy and worsens behavior problems. (If your dog is misbehaving, enroll yourself and your dog in a humane training class.) If you know a dog whose whole life is spent on the end of a chain, help the dog's guardian see how important it is to improve the dog's life.

#### **Spay** or neuter

your dog or cat. Every hour, 2,500 dogs and cats are born in the U.S.-far more than can ever find good homes. Failure to responsibly control their

reproduction has resulted in such overpopulation that millions of them become homeless, ending up in shelters or struggling to survive on the streets.

## If you must give up an animal

it is vital to screen prospective homes carefully. If you are advertising in the newspaper, never say, "Free to a good home," the five favorite words of "bunchers" who sell animals to laboratory dealers. Always check references and visit the prospective home. Don't hand over the animal until you are completely satisfied, and don't be afraid to say "no"; your animal friend's life may depend on it. (If you are unable to find a good home, take him or her to a shelter with strict adoption rules. Beware of "no-kill" shelters where animals can wind up spending their entire lives in cages.)

# Never ignore lost, stray, or hurt animals

On the street, they can fall victim to disease, starvation, cars, and the cruelty of humans--as well as being able to reproduce and add to the overpopulation problem.

When animals are lost, picking them up could help reunite them with their human family. If they're stray, it will get them safely off the streets. Keep the animal control number on your fridge and in your wallet in case you need to call for help.

#### For more information, please contact:

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals 501 Front St., Norfolk, VA 23510 757-622-PETA

Web site: www.peta-online.org

PETA



#### Look out for "hot dogs"

Dogs don't perspire, so in hot weather they should never be left in a car—

even with car windows
cracked, a dog can quickly
suffer brain damage or
death. Beat summer fleas by
giving dogs flaxseed oil,
calcium ascorbate (buffered
vitamin C powder),
vitamin B-complex, and
garlic and by using a flea
comb to remove fleas and
their eggs. Also vacuum
frequently, spray
carpets and floors with

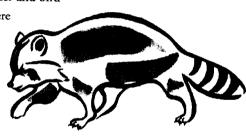
a flea growth regulator, and consider having your dog shaved if you live in a hot region.

#### Wipe out winter woes

Break the ice on ponds and puddles so squirrels, birds, and other animals who live outdoors can drink the water. In the yard, anchor water containers to the fence, or place buckets inside old tires to prevent spilling. Place water and bird-

seed where it won't get wet or covered with

snow.



#### Clear identification

can save a dog or cat's life. Accidents happen, and, when they do, lost animals depend on that highly visible tag bearing your name, street address, and two telephone numbers. Every few months, slip three fingers under the collar to make sure it isn't too tight. Tattooing and microchip implants provide added protection against theft.

# No bird belongs in a cage

Birds are meant to fly and be with others of their own kind. Never buy a bird from a pet shop or a breeder. If you already have birds, never clip their wing feathers,

and let them fly free in a safe place for long periods of time every day. Consider sending solitary birds to a good bird sanctuary or to someone

who has

others of the same species, allows them to live in a free-flight situation, and won't separate them once they have bonded.

#### 5 Little things count

Regular play and attention mean everything to animals whose lives consist of waiting for us to come home. Food, water, shelter, and veterinary care are vital, but animals are social beings who love companionship more than anything else. Don't ignore that wagging tail,

let your cat cuddle with you while you

read the newspaper, and don't rush when you walk your dogs--it's their time to explore and smell the roses.

## Traveling with an animal?

Beware! If you are flying, choose an airline that allows animals to fly in the passenger compartment. Don't put your animal in the cargo hold--the temperature is not reliably regulated; loading, unloading, and cargo shifts cause injury and even death; and countless animals have been injured or lost after escaping from their carriers. If your animal friend cannot fly in the passenger compartment, the best option is to drive or seek a different safe method of transport.

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